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THE QUESTION BOX

The Wisconsin Historical Library has long maintained a bureau of historical information for the benefit of those who care to avail themselves of the service it offers. In "The Question Box" will be printed from time to time such queries, with the answers made to them, as possess sufficient general interest to render their publication worth while.

THE OLD CHURCH ON MADELINE ISLAND

Can you give me the date of the building of the old Roman Catholic Church on Madeline Island in Lake Superior?

My reason for asking is: There is an old church, "Caroline Church," in Setauket, that is approaching its 200th anniversary, and it is alleged to be the oldest church building in America. But my impression is that the church on Madeline Island antedates this, as I think that church was built by the Jesuits in the time of Marquette, Hennepin, and the rest of them.

HERMAN HAUPT JR.
East Setauket, Long Island

The church building on Madeline Island is incorrectly attributed to the Jesuit mission of Father Marquette. No trace of his mission on Chequamegon Bay is known, save the letters and accounts published in the *Jesuit Relations*.

The Madeline Island church was built in the early part of the nineteenth century by Father Frederick Baraga (later Bishop Baraga), an Austrian Catholic missionary to the Indians and half-breeds of the Lake Superior region.

THE NAME OF MONDOVI

Can you give me any information regarding the name of our little city, Mondovi—its origin or meaning?

MRS. R. SOUTHWORTH
Mondovi

Your request for information concerning the name Mondovi interests us, but we are not able to solve the problem of its origin. We are of opinion that the name was probably invented by some